

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Falciglia et al. Art Unit :
Patent No. : 5.708.235 Examiner :
Issue Date : January 13, 1998
Reissue Application SN:
Reissue Application Filed: January 13, 2000

Title : ARMORED CABLE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminarily, please add the following new claims:

35. Apparatus comprising:
a tubular conductive sheath having first and second ends and inner and outer surfaces, the
inner surface of the sheath defining an internal passage sized and configured to enclose one or
more conductors; and
visible indicia that permit electrical conductivity, are displayed along at least a portion of
the sheath between the first and second ends of the sheath, and impart to the outer surface of the
sheath a visual appearance different from a visual appearance of the outer surface of the sheath
without the visible indicia.

36. The apparatus of claim 35 in which the visible indicia comprise a substantially
non-conductive material arranged to permit electrical conductivity.

37. The apparatus of claim 35 in which the visible indicia comprise a removable
coating of a substantially non-conductive material.

38. The apparatus of claim 37 in which the removable coating comprises paint.

39. The apparatus of claim 35 in which the visible indicia are arranged to expose at
least a portion of the outer surface of the conductive sheath as necessary to assure that a
connector attached to the sheath will make electrical contact with the outer surface of the sheath.

40. The apparatus of claim 39 in which the visible indicia are arranged to expose at
least a portion of the outer surface of the sheath by leaving uncoated areas on the outer surface.

41. The apparatus of claim 35 in which the sheath is helically wound.

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42. The apparatus of claim 41 in which the visible indicia comprise a removable coating of a substantially non-conductive material arranged to expose at least a portion of the outer surface of the conductive sheath as necessary to assure that a connector attached to the sheath will make electrical contact with the outer surface of the sheath.

43. The apparatus of claim 41 in which the visible indicia are arranged to expose at least a portion of the outer surface of the sheath by leaving uncoated areas on the outer surface.

44. The apparatus of claim 41 in which the visible indicia permit electrical conductivity between successive windings of the sheath.

45. A method comprising:
forming a length of helically wound conductive sheath for housing conductors, the
conductive sheath having an outer surface having an appearance, and
after the forming, applying a coating to the outer surface of the sheath, the coating having
an appearance different from the appearance of the outer surface of the sheath.

46. The method of claim 45 in which the coating is continuous along at least a portion of the sheath.

47. The method of claim 46 in which the coating is continuous around the circumference of the sheath.

48. The method of claim 45 in which the coating permits electrical conductivity between successive windings of the sheath.

49. A method comprising:
providing a tubular conductive sheath having first and second ends and inner and outer
surfaces, the inner surface of the sheath defining an internal passage sized and configured to
enclose one or more conductors, the sheath bearing visible indicia that permit electrical
conductivity, are displayed along at least a portion of the outer surface of the sheath between the
first and second ends of the sheath, and impart to the outer surface of the sheath a visual
appearance different from a visual appearance of the outer surface of the sheath without the
visible indicia, and
attaching a connector to the sheath in such a manner that the connector makes electrical
contact with the outer surface of the sheath.

50. The method of claim 49 in which the visible indicia comprise a substantially non-conductive coating and the connector makes electrical contact with the outer surface notwithstanding the coating.

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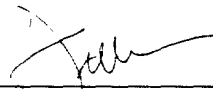
51. The method of claim 50 in which the connector makes electrical contact with the outer surface at a location that is not coated.

Applicant reserves the right to add additional claims, including broadened claims, during the prosecution of the reissue application.

Please apply any excess charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted.

Date: 1/13/00



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